

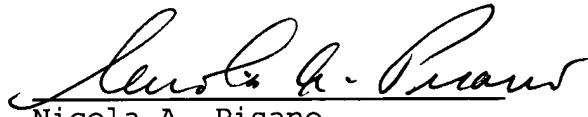
REMARKS

After careful review of the claims, applicant noted a minor error of a clerical nature with respect to claims 31 and 41. Specifically, applicant has replaced "diametral expansion" with "diametral variation", as this change better reflects the disclosure of the specification at page 14, lines 12-21, and page 15, lines 1-9.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully submits that the application is still in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicola A. Pisano
Reg. No. 34,408
Attorney for Applicant

LUCE, FORWARD,
HAMILTON & SCRIPPS, LLP
11988 El Camino Real, Ste 200
San Diego, California 92130
Tel.: (858) 720-6320
Fax : (858) 523-4326